**Meeting of State Environment Secretaries**

*219. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN :

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of State Secretaries and Chairman of Pollution Control Boards was held in Delhi during January 1993;

(b) if so, the recommendations made at the meeting and decisions taken;

(c) whether details of the green cess scheme were put forth and decisions arrived at; and

(d) what programme was adopted for pollution control by industries and what are the targets fixed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) A meeting with Secretaries, Departments of Environment of the State Governments, Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board and Chairman, State Pollution Control Boards was held on January 25, 1993, at New Delhi. The status of compliance of major and medium scale industries in the identified heavily polluting sectors was reviewed particularly with regard to the action taken against the defaulting units.

(b) to (d) The following areas have been identified where special stress should be given by the Central and State Governments and Central and State Pollution Control Boards in 1993-94 :—

(1) *Environmental Audit* :—The accent in Environmental audit would be on the conservation of natural resources, computerisation and networking between the different agencies. The major efforts would be in ensuring that guidelines & inter-firm comparisons of waste generation are available and published. Adequate training would be provided and awareness build up.

(2) *Compliance with standards* :—The unit which were set up prior to May, 1981 would has been to comply with the standards by December, 1993, including a focus on small scale industries and chemical pollutants. The States have to ensure that this deadline is met by the units in SSI units. This should also be implemented through modernisation of the units in the SSI units in the 17 highly polluting sectors. Pollution control from these industries is important for maintaining the quality of the water bodies.

(3) *Air pollution control particularly in Metropolitan Areas/States Capitals* :—Special efforts are to be made to control vehicular pollution, lead pollution and noise. The concept of having air pollution control areas by setting up air sheds need to be followed in all States.

(4) *Strategy for pollution control from mining Activities* :—A strategy is to be worked out to formulate an environmental management plan and a monitoring mechanism for mines.

(5) *State of Environment Reports* :—The States need to regularly bring out state of environment reports as a part of their annual reports so that policies for the future can be framed.

(6) *Cess Collection* :—Methods of augmenting cess collection were discussed particularly collection from local bodies as they have a vital role to play in the pollution control programme.

**Closure of Indian Embassy in Afganistan**

*220. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the value of personal properties of Indian Embassy staff and the properties of Government of India that was lost on closure of Indian Embassy in Afghanistan;

(b) the total number of Indian origins in Afghanistan having migrated to India during the last five years and the values of the properties abandoned by them in Afghanistan;

(c) whether Government of India propose to make any claim from Afghan Government to compensate the Indian origins who migrated to India;

(d) the number of Afghan nationals staying in India and whether Government proposes to deport them; and

(e) whether it is a fact that a number of Afghan nationals are involved in illegal money lending activities and other crimes and whether Government propose to confiscate the properties of such Afghan nationals involved in such activities ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Rhinoceros Census in the Kaziranga in Assam**

1740. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an intensive rhinoceros census in the Kaziranga in Assam has been completed;

(b) whether Government have ascertained the census figures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Census has been completed in Kaziranga in Assam during March, 1991.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The report received from the Government of Assam state; that the population of Rhinoceros in Kaziranga was estimated to be 1129 in March, 1991.

**Population of Rhino in the Kaziranga National Park**

1741. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that population of Rhino in the Kaziranga National Park is decreasing steadly, if so details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that poaching of Rhino is being used to funding insurgents in Assam; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the funds earmarked for the protection of Rhino with the State have not reached the said National Park; if so, the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) *The Rhino population in Kaziranga in repoted to have declined during last 3 years from 1250 in 1989 to 1129 in 1991.*

(b) Apprehensions to this effect have been expressed in different quarters.

(c) It is understood that the Central Assistance of Rs. 75.00 lakhs for 1992-93 earmarked for the protection of Rhino under the scheme "Conservation of Rhinos in Assam" has been released by the Government of Assam to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Assam.

**सरदार सरोवर के विस्थापितों का पुनर्वास**

1742. **श्री विश्वास राव रामराव पाटिल** क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने सरदार सरोवर परियोजना के विस्थापितों के पुनर्वास हेतु 1500 हेक्टेयर भूमि की मांग की है ;

(ख) यदि हां तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) सरकार ने उस पर क्या निर्णय लिया है ?

**कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्रीमती मारग्रेट अल्वा)** : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) सरदार सरोवर परियोजना से प्रभावित लोगों को धुले जिले में फिर से